

ORAL PRESENTATION

DISTRIBUTION AND MORPHOLOGICAL VARIABILITY OF *COSMIONEIS*  
(BACILLARIOPHYCEAE) IN HAWAII

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*Cosmioneis* Mann & Stickle, is a pennate diatom in the family Cosmiodeidaceae and order Naviculales. A single specimen of this genus (*Navicula pusilla* W. Sm., now *Cosmioneis pusilla* (W. Sm.) Mann & Stickle) had been previously reported from Oahu. In extensive surveys of algae of subaerial habitats on Maui and Oahu, Hawaii we collected populations of three species of *Cosmioneis*. Reports from other habitats describe *C. pusilla* as morphologically variable with valves ends ranging from subrostrate to strongly capitate. Our populations of *C. cf. pusilla* showed little variability and were either strongly capitate or rostrate and are probably two separate species. In addition we found populations of a third putatively undescribed species of *Cosmioneis*. Here we will discuss the morphology and ecology of this genus in Hawaii.